



Approved 5/5/16

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION

Meeting Date: Thursday, April 5, 2016

Community Development Meeting Room

Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Members

PRESENT	DISTRICT	STANDING COMMITTEES
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Brenda White, Chair	Bermuda District	Athletic Activities Committee Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
Shayne McDavid, Vice Chair	Clover Hill District	Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
Cathy Cheely	Bermuda District	Capital Projects Committee Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
Bruce Clayton	Matoaca District	Athletic Activities Committee
David Glass	School Board Representative	Athletic Activities Committee
Earnest W. Harris, Jr.	Dale District	Athletic Activities Committee Capital Projects Committee Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
Raymond B. Marsh	Matoaca District	Athletic Activities Committee Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
Robert McCurry	Midlothian District	Athletic Activities Committee Capital Projects Committee Future Visions Outreach & Greenways
John Simpson	Midlothian District	Athletic Activities Committee Capital Projects Committee

Quorum is 6 per Bylaws

ABSENT

Bob Terrell	Dale District	Athletic Activities Committee Capital Projects Committee
Vacant Position	Clover Hill District	

Parks and Recreation Liaisons/County Staff

Present:

- **Phil Innis**, Interim Director, Primary Liaison Athletic Activities, Future Visions Outreach & Greenways Committee
- **Angela Quinn**, Chief of Finance, Parks & Recreation, Capital Projects Committee
- **Stuart Connock, Jr.**, Chief of Parks, Planning & Construction Section, Primary Liaison, Capital Projects and Future Visions Outreach & Greenways Committees
- **Jim Perdue**, Assistant Director, Parks Liaison, Capital Projects, Future Visions Outreach & Greenways Committees
- **Holly Angel**, Administrative Assistant, Parks & Recreation

Absent:

- **Bill Carlson**, Athletics Manager, Liaison Athletic Activities, Capital Projects Committee

Speaker	Subject/Organization
George Fickett	Chesterfield Historical Society
Steve Muller	Citizen - Robious Landing Regatta
Hank Holswade	Virginia Boat Club
Brian Teachy	Chesterfield Quarterback League
Lou Lipa	Chesterfield Metro Giants
George Welsh	Citizen - Regatta

🔊 Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission Mission Statement 🔊

Working in partnership with the public, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Board of Supervisors, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) seeks to eliminate obstacles that interfere with Chesterfield County's ability to efficiently and safely provide greenways, parks, recreational facilities, and associated programs. PRAC also strives to support recreational programs and facilities that a First Choice Community such as Chesterfield should afford its citizens, as well as to exercise leadership in projecting the future recreational needs of the County's citizens and determining how best to meet those needs.

Meeting Procedures:

A sign-up sheet is available at each meeting for anyone who wishes to speak.

- I. **Call PRAC Meeting to Order:** Brenda White, Chair welcomed the assembly at 7:00 p.m. with a quorum present.
- II. **Non-Sectarian Invocation:** Earnest Harris led the assembly in the Invocation.
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Phil Innis led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- IV. **Approval of the PRAC Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2016:**
 - A motion was made to approve the March 3, 2016 Commission minutes by Raymond Marsh with a 2nd by Shayne McDavid and there being no further discussion, the minutes were approved and will be posted on the Parks and Recreation website: <http://www.chesterfield.gov/Parks.aspx?id=3133>
- V. **Amendments to Agenda:** Two amendments were requested to be added.
 1. Under Old Business – Add - Sand Volleyball Courts – Chris Hariston
 2. Under New Business – Add - Parking in non-designated spots – Jim Perdue
- VI. **Public Hearing/Comments/Unscheduled Matters:**
 - **George Fickett** – Chesterfield Historical Society – shared information on Heritage Day at the Courthouse to be held on April 9 beginning at 11:30 a.m. Recently appointed to the new board of Petersburg National Battlefield and shared information on a book that National Geographic has published, **A Traveler's Guide**, on 500 Civil War sites across the USA mentioning 6 that are in Chesterfield County.
 - **Steve Muller** – Robious Landing - resident of Chesterfield County for over 40 years and asking for less in regards to Robious Landing Park. During times of events which are 3-4 yearly, between the Boat Club and James River High School, the events totally shut down the area and a large section of the James River for any additional residents to be able to enjoy the amenities. Concerns center around the private boat clubs housing equipment and using county property. Mr. Muller shared pictures from the Robious Landing area. Requesting commitment from PRAC to have all activity moved from the area within 6 months and immediately disallow anything that overwhelms the area. Feels that activities are prohibiting other citizens from the use of the River and the Park.

Background shared by Parks & Recreation – VA Boat Club has had a lease for the facilities that can run through 1/31/23. Part of the requirement of the lease is to be co-sponsored – all requirements of that agreement are in order and up to date. Regattas are similar to a tournament that is held on athletic fields where teams are coming from out of town. All organizations utilizing the area have a relationship with the Boat Club. The boat house is owned by the County and the equipment is owned by the organizations. Classified as a recreational group and not an athletic group.

Hank Holswade – Commented that VA Boat Club is the overseeing body for rowing in Richmond. James River High School is the only high school in the area that has a crew team. Approximately 2000 youth have had the opportunity to participate in this activity because of the cooperation between the school, county and the boat club. VA Boat Club sponsors 1 Regatta a year, 2 others are sponsored by the high school. All events are done with permits and the United States Coast Guard. The Boat Club is classified as a recreational co-sponsored group – similar to the Pickleball Group. Currently there are 110 members of VA Boat Club

A recommendation to refer this item to the PRAC Athletic Committee was approved by the Commission.

Request - Is the lease separate from the co-sponsorship and a review of the non-resident fees – do they apply to this group. Recreational vs Athletic Group distinctions come into play. Updates and recommendation from committee review to be provided at a later meeting. A copy of the lease was also requested to be shared with the Committee.

- **Brian Teachy** – Chesterfield Quarterback League – would like to announce that recently added 3 groups to participate under the CQL banner. The addition of these groups does not require additional increased fields but will follow CQL rules. Discussion was brought up as to how this impacts the co-sponsored agreement and the impact with numbers. Suggestion is to have the Athletic Committee review the facts prior to the season beginning in August with first games in September. **Request to refer to Athletic Committee to review and update Commission to insure that all is being followed properly. The Commission agreed to refer to Athletic Committee for review.**
- **Lou Lipppa** – Chesterfield Metro Giants Football – shared a handout highlighting the co-sponsored groups and their county participation makeup of numbers. Questioning group makeup and how the organizations report through the different leagues. One main group such as CQL – any group under that league should turn in all fees and required paperwork as a group, not individually. Feels that opportunities were missed out on by his group and just wants everyone treated fairly and to follow the guidelines of the Sports Manual. **Recommendation for this item to be referred to the Athletic Committee for further review and also review of the Sports Manual and Policies by Staff.**
- **George Welsh** – Robious Landing Regatta – Chesterfield County resident – lives 500' down on the river and would like to request that the events shutting down the river for additional access by other citizens be started earlier in the morning so that the greater part of the day is still available for other citizen use.

VII. Old Business:

- **Sand Volleyball Courts** – Chris Hariston had requested an update on the progress but did not attend. Stuart Connock commented that the work from Parks is not complete at this time and anticipated that an update will be available once demands on the work group have changed.

VIII. New Business:

- **Parking in non-designated spots** – Jim Perdue – An ongoing issue that has again come to light are the user groups at the school locations that drive wherever there is any access to get closer to areas of use and drop off and pick up children. Two instances recently have been brought to our attention of unsafe conditions that are occurring at two locations (Spring Run Elementary School and Chalkley Elementary School.)

Officer Tommy Mitchell – Chesterfield County Police Department – directed by his Captain to look into a citizen complaint of people driving into areas that present unsafe conditions for pedestrians and children on the school grounds and practice areas by user groups. Officer Mitchell was positioned the following evening after the incident at a location to observe and gather information from users at the facility. At this time, there is nothing in the county code to prohibit individual parking in these areas on county property so to enforce designated parking is hard to accomplish.

Comments by Staff – Notices have been sent out to User Group leadership (co-sponsored groups) to remind their volunteers and participants to only park in designated parking areas in order to keep everyone safe and allow for emergency vehicles to gain access in an emergency. Additional information shared that school grounds are maintained by Parks and excessive use on undesignated areas will cause additional maintenance. Adequate parking is provided in designated parking areas. Staff will continue to work with police to correct the bad habits and also in notifying the user groups of continued guidelines for parking.

Long-term - Motion to make a statement from PRAC with Parks & Recreation advisement and assistance of Police Department. In the short term proposed to get some help from those that use the parks (user groups.)

IX. Parks and Recreation Director's Remarks:

- **Phil Innis** – During the interim until a Director is selected, Phil Innis has been appointed to lead the Department. Phil updated the group on the process for the Director selection and will keep everyone informed as to the progress. The application process closed March 31 – applications will be reviewed and initial interviews will start the end of April. The Summer Brochure will be out April 25; St. Michael's Church is a new Pickleball indoor site Mondays and Friday's 4:30 – 8 p.m. at the Gym with participation at all levels. Special Event - Kite Day at Clover Hill Athletic Complex will be held on April 10.

X. Accept Parks and Recreation Staff Reports:

- **Stuart Connock** – introduced Brian Geouge who will be the team lead for update of the Department Master Plan.
- **Department Master Plan** – Brian Geouge - Updates to facility standard designs are in progress which will provide 5-10 year direction for the Department – citizen based and data driven. Input from different department areas are being obtained. Public input will be sought in June 2016 and reviewed with information obtained from a survey taken in 2015 that brought in roughly 1400 responses. An additional review by citizens will be held in October 2016 and then eventually endorsement by PRAC to be presented to the Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors. Requesting that this be assigned to the Future Visions Outreach and Greenways Committee to share recommendations and feedback and a second request is to have an ongoing slot on the PRAC agenda for input on the progress.

A Motion by Shayne McDavid to have the Department Master Plan referred to the Future Visions Outreach and Greenways Committee to review on a regular basis and gain specific details on the plan and to have the PRAC Agenda amended to have a regular agenda item each month for PRAC as an opportunity to obtain public input. A second was made by Rob McCurry. Unanimous approval by Commission to proceed with requests.

Construction Status Report – Active projects include **Falling Creek Ironworks** – trail and interpretative areas with an event planned for May 21; **Ettrick/VSU Trail** – nearing completion and should be open to the public the first part of June with some type of grand opening event planned for June (date TBD). Extensive athletic lighting being completed at park and school sites to bring back up to the level required.

- **Capital Improvement Program – FY'17-'21** – Budget review by the Board of Supervisors slated for adoption on April 13, 2016. The request identifies a large volume of renovation money over the next 5 years than we have not had in the past. About 2% of our inventory needs to be replaced on average every year.
 - **Parkland Acquisition – Falling Creek in the Providence Road area** – Neighborhood meeting held **April 5, 2016 at 6:30 at the new Courthouse Road Library** and then back to the Planning Commission in May; 3rd public meeting regarding the **New Winterpock Area/Rt. 360 West Park was held on March 14 with public concerns addressed**. Crime in the neighborhoods was addressed and with 10 years of records data proves in similar areas in Chesterfield county that there are less incidents of crime with a park centered in the area than without a park.
 - **Volleyball Center** – Staff is completing facility layouts, construction and operational plan and developing cost estimates.
 - **Dog Park in Chester Area** – group continues to work on funding. Sheriff's workforce has been involved in some of the clearing and most completed for Phase I.
- **Phil Innis**- The Recreation Section made a presentation on the different sections and opportunities that are offered within each group through Parks & Recreation. Recreation involves Community, Outdoor, Athletics, Public Information, Finance and Administration. Each area was highlighted in the presentation. **Dave Caras** - Community Recreation and **Noel Losen** – Outdoor Recreation – made the presentation that outlined the different opportunities and activities for their group. New ideas for programs and training are always welcome. Co-sponsored participation for 2015 tops 33,000 in youth and adult sports with 6,000 volunteer coaches in the database in relation to 56,000 enrolled in the school system. Sports Tourism generated over \$22M for Chesterfield County in 2015.

XI. Committee Reports: No Committee Reports.

XII. Commission Roundtable Discussions:

- **John Simpson** – No Report
- **David Glass** – No Report
- **Rob McCurry** – No Report
- **Cathy Cheely** – No Report
- **Raymond Marsh** – No Report
- **Earnest Harris** – Currently serving on a committee that will address additional senior needs. “Lost one of the giants of Parks & Recreation to retirement – Mike Golden – what he brought to the group was unbelievable. Sharing the recommendation now as we don’t know what tomorrow brings. The contributions and dedication of this gentleman were great. Would like to propose a Bike Trail (The Golden Bike Trail) or other facility to be named in his honor.”
- **Bruce Clayton** - Back parking lot to Softball Nation at Ironbridge is in poor condition – patched several times and potholes now have reappeared. (Jim Perdue to address with his group.)
- **Shayne McDavid** – Announcement that he and his wife are having their first child due on Labor Day.
- **Brenda White** – Please visit Henricus Park and the Village. Commented on frustration in trying to grasp the structure for football which is not like soccer.

XIII. Recommendation of Agenda Items for the May 5, 2016 meeting: Committee Report Updates.

XIV. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Holly Angel, Administrative Assistant, Parks & Recreation. **The next PRAC meeting will be held at the Community Development Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, 2016.**